

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A sheet is firstly fed only by a sheet feed roller and then relayed to a transportation roller. When the transportation roller starts conveying the sheet, a motor coupled to the sheet feed roller is deenergized so that the sheet feed roller is not rotated by the power of motor but rotated due to frictional contact with the sheet being transported by the transportation roller. At this time, the rotation sensor senses rotations of a disk attached to the shaft of the sheet feed roller. A trailing edge of the sheet is detected when the rotation sensor no longer detects the rotations of the disk. Based on the detection of the trailing edge of the sheet, the timing at which the subsequent sheet is fed out by the sheet feed roller is determined. As such, an interval between successively fed two cut sheets can be shortened, thereby improving sheet feed efficiency.